

Message Text

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64

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

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R 271500 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2138

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PGOV, MILI, AO

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON CINC PRESS STATEMENT

REF: LUANDA 0182

1. "INTERVIEW" IN OFFICIAL MOUTHPIECE OBVIOUSLY STIMULATED BY LUZ CUNHA. BOTH QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SHOULD BE TAKEN AS REFLECTING LUZ CUNHA'S VIEWS. QUESTION ABOUT "FEELING OF UNEASINESS IN OVERSEAS" PRESUMABLY MEANS AMONG MILITARY LEADERSHIP WHO REPORTED AS INCREASINGLY DISTURBED BY WHAT THEY SEE AS WORSENING SECURITY SITUATION AT HOME.

2. IMMEDIATE AND POSSIBLY ONLY REASON FOR STATEMENT WAS TO DEAL WITH REPORTS ORIGINATING SOME TEN DAYS AGO AMONG MILITARY OFFICERS OF RECENT BARRACKS MUTINY IN LUANDA. MOST VERSIONS HAVE IT THAT TWO DOZEN YOUNG OFFICERS (OR PARATROOP NONCOMS) STAGED REVOLT, SPARKED

BY DISATISFACTION OVER GOVGEN SANTOS E CASTRO. THIS EXPLANATION CLEARLY INADEQUATE. EVEN THOUGH CINC AND GOVGEN REPORTEDLY DISLIKE EACH OTHER BOTH PURSUE IDENTICAL POLICIES AND SEEMS TO SHARE ULTRA CONSERVATIVE VIEWS RE ANGOLA. NO REASON TO SINGLE ONE OUT BUT NOT OTHER FOR CRITICISM (UNLESS THOSE REPEATING STORY TRYING TO STIR UP FURTHER TROUBLE BETWEEN CIVILIANS AND MILITARY). MORE PLAUSIBLE VERSION IS THAT "SMALL NUMBER" OF VERY YOUNG, NEWLY
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ARRIVED PORTUGUESE OFFICERS IN PRIVATE BULLSESSION EXPRESSED
PACIFIST
NOTIONS, CRITICIZING MPLETION OF THEIR EDUCATION
RECEIVED AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE?" UNDER THE PREVIOUSLY EXISITING
SITUATION HEWS COULD LEAVE BY MERELY PAYING THE PRESCRIBED FEES.

3. LOUIS, INCIDENTLY, SAID HIS STORY WAS NOT PRINTED BY HIS
PAPER, THE LONDON EVENING NEWS, WHICH HOWEVER SENT IT ON TO ISRAEL
FOR POSSIBLE USE THERE.
DUBS

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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